

**CLAIM AMENDMENTS:**

1. (currently amended) A connector, comprising:

a housing (10) with opposite front and rear ends and cavities (11) extending into the rear end, insertion openings (14) being formed in the front end of the housing (10) for allowing parts of mating terminal fittings to be inserted into the cavities (11) a plurality of said cavities being arranged along an outer wall of the housing, the outer wall of the housing having a cut-away portion adjacent the front end of the housing and opening to the cavities arranged along the outer wall; and

a retainer (40) mountable into the housing (11) for locking terminal fittings (30) in the respective cavities (11), the retainer (40) including a main body (41) having locking sections (43) engageable with the terminal fittings (30), a front wall (46) supported substantially along the front end of the housing (10), through holes (47) formed in the front wall (46) and substantially corresponding to the insertion openings (14), at least one reinforcement (52) projecting at an angle to the front wall (46) and extending substantially in a transverse direction (TD), the reinforcement being accommodated in the cut-away portion.

2. (currently amended) The connector of claim 1, wherein the retainer (40) comprises two supports (44) extending from opposite lateral sides of the main body (41), and the front wall (46) spanning between front edges of the supports (44) for locating the front wall (46) substantially along the front end of the housing (10).

3. (currently amended) The connector of claim 2, wherein at least one edge of the reinforcement (52) is coupled to the support (44).

4. (currently amended) The connector of claim 1, wherein a plurality of said cavities (11) are arranged along an outer wall (18) of the housing (10), each of said cavities (11) having a lock (12) for locking the corresponding terminal fitting (30), the locks (12) being located at a side opposite from the outer wall (18).

5. (canceled).

6. (currently amended) The connector of claim 1, further comprising a bulge (53) increasing thicknesses of the front wall (46) and the reinforcement (52) where the front wall (46) and the reinforcement (52) meet, the front wall (46) extending substantially in the transverse direction (TD).

7. (currently amended) The connector of claim 6, wherein the housing (10) has an accommodating portion (17) for at least partly accommodating the bulge (53).

8. (currently amended) The connector of claim 6, wherein the accommodating portion (53) communicates with front ends of the cavities (11), and the terminal fittings (30) inserted into the cavities (11) are held at their front-limit positions by contacting the bulge (53) accommodated in the accommodating portion (17).

9. (currently amended) The connector of claim 1, wherein the housing (10) comprises at least one housing-side guide (15) and the front wall (46) comprises at least one guiding surface (50) configured and disposed so that the front wall (46) is guided by sliding contact of the housing-side guide (15) and the guiding surface (50) of the front wall (46) as the retainer (40) is moved.

10. (currently amended) The connector of claim 1, wherein the front wall includes mold removal spaces aligned with the respective locks, and wherein the

through holes (47) of the retainer (40) substantially align with the insertion openings (14) and the front wall (46) of the retainer (40) substantially closes the mold-removal spaces (13) when the retainer (40) is in a locking position, where the retainer (40) locks the terminal fittings (30).

11. (currently amended) A connector, comprising:

a housing (10) with opposite front and rear ends and opposite sides, cavities (11) extending into the rear end along a forward and backward direction (FBD), the front end extending between the sides in a transverse direction (TD) substantially normal to the forward and backward direction (FBD), insertion openings (14) being formed in the front end of the housing (10) and extending into the cavities (11); and

a retainer (40) having an elongate main body (41) extending in the transverse direction (TD) and being mountable into the housing (11) for locking terminal fittings (30) in the respective cavities (11), the main body (41) having opposite sides substantially at the opposite sides of the housing (10), supports (44) extending from the opposite sides of the main body (41), a front wall (46) spanning between front edges of the supports (44) and supported substantially along the front end of the housing (10), through holes (47) formed in the front wall (46) and substantially corresponding to the insertion openings (14), at least one reinforcement (52) projecting at an angle from the front wall (46) and extending in the transverse direction (TD) between the supports (44).

12. (currently amended) The connector of claim 11, wherein the cavities (11) include a first stage of cavities (11) arranged along an outer wall (18) of the housing (10), the outer wall (18) having a cut-away (19) adjacent the front end of the housing (10), the reinforcement (52) being received in the cut-away (19).

13. (currently amended) The connector of claim 12, wherein the cut-away (19)-exposes the first stage of cavities (11)-adjacent the front end of the housing (10).

14. (currently amended) The connector of claim 13, wherein each of said cavities (11)-has a lock (12)-for locking the corresponding terminal fitting-(30), the locks (12)-in the first stage of cavities (11)-being located at a side opposite from the cut-away(19).

15. (currently amended) The connector of claim 13, wherein the retainer (40)-further comprises a bulge (53)-increasing thicknesses of the front wall-(46) and the reinforcement (52)-where the front wall (46)-and the reinforcement (52)-meet.

16. (currently amended) The connector of claim 15, wherein the housing (10)-has an accommodating portion (17)-for accommodating the bulge-(53).

17. (currently amended) The connector of claim 16, wherein the accommodating portion (53)-communicates with front ends of the cavities-(11), and the terminal fittings-(30) inserted into the cavities-(11) are held at front-limit positions by contacting the bulge (53)-in the accommodating portion-(17).